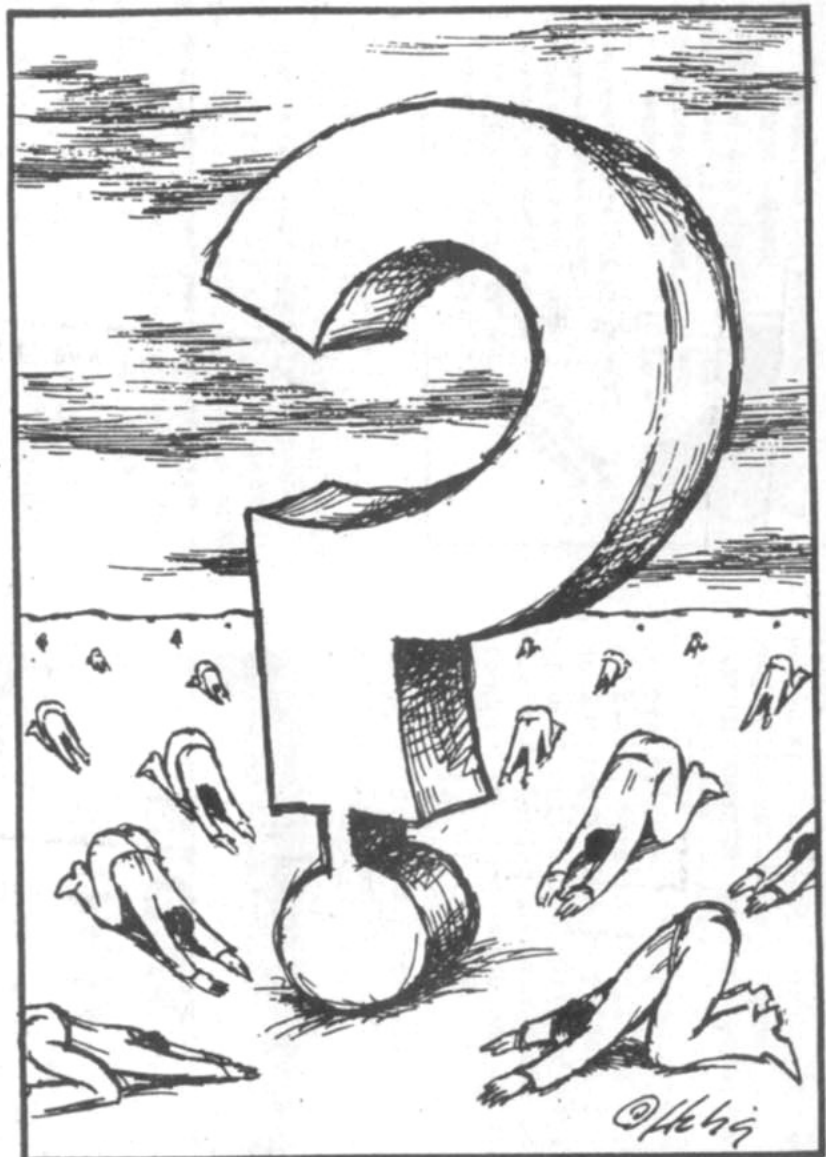


The Progressive Review

& DC Gazette



AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1984
WHOLE NUMBER 241
ONE DOLLAR



THE WEATHER REPORT



WOMEN RUNNING: The New York Times reports that a record number of women will be running for the Senate this year. Women could be vying for as many as 12 of the 33 contested Senate seats.

JAPANESE OUTPUT MYTH: Experts have been pointing to the Japanese worker as a model of productivity, but Forbes Magazine quotes Columbia University economist Andrew Weiss as saying that's a myth. According to Weiss, the average worker in Japan produces less than 75% of what a US worker does. What's more, Japanese workers miss just as many days as Americans and quit their jobs just as often. Weiss says the Japanese excel only in certain industries -- like electronics -- because they pay well and hire more engineers per worker.

COCAINE WORSE THAN HEROIN?: Researchers at Concordia University in Montreal report that lab animals given unlimited access to cocaine lose 40% of their body weight within a week or two and die soon after. By contrast, animals allowed all the heroin they want stay reasonably healthy, just so long as their drug supply is steady. That's not to say heroin is any picnic. But the researchers fear coke is getting off too easy. Says one, "It's difficulty to say which is the more dangerous drug."

LEAKING TANKS: The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that there are between 75,000 and 100,000 leaking gasoline tanks in the US. One of the problems is that many gas stations were built in the 1950s with steel tanks that have a lifespan of about thirty years.

MILITARY GUINEA PIGS: People for Ethical Treatment of Animals reports

that the School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks Air Force Base in Texas is continuing to perform radiation experiments on primates. The actual irradiation of the monkeys' eyes does not hurt; it takes about two weeks for the agony to start. Acute irritation and discomfort last several months and eventually cataracts and blindness result. Other studies concern the effects of radiation on the performance of dying, irradiated pilots. Monkeys are taught to fly platforms which climb, dive and otherwise simulate aircraft. Then the monkeys are irradiated and tested for their ability to keep the planes level, while suffering from radiation sickness.

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS REJECT FALLOUT SHELTER STATUS: Thirty two religious institutions across the country have rejected the fallout shelter status of their buildings as part of a nationwide Religious Nuclear Free Zone Campaign coordinated by the Religious Task Force of the Mobilization for Survival. Said one participant in the program, "The way the crisis relocation program has been proposed we feel would give the citizens of our area a false sense of security about nuclear war." To find out how

It used to be the custom in this country that when you had made a career and were mature in judgement, you went to the Senate to give something back to the Republic. The idea that at age 25 you go out and buy a blow dryer and start running for office is not what the founders had in mind --Gore Vidal

to make your church or synagogue a nuclear free zone, write the taskforce at 85 S. Oxford St, Brooklyn NY 11217 (212-858-6882)

POSITIONAL SEGREGATION?: Some football coaches tend to consign black players to certain positions, while leaving more central "decision-making" positions for white players, a study of Southeastern Conference football teams has found. Though the researchers who did the study of the team rosters from 1973 to 1983 disagree over whether the stacking of black players at wide receiver, running back and defensive back is deliberate, all stress their study didn't ask why the teams have been segregated by position.

The study was conducted by Joan Paul and Richard McGehee of Southeast Louisiana University and Helen Fant of Louisiana State.

"There is no way (the stacking) could be by chance," says Paul. "Some of the possible reasons might be skill differences or prejudice, but not by chance." But Fant says, "Who would want to move a black person ten yards back?"

Paul, however, notes that "many coaches may say 'we do it by skill.' A lot of things happen that are subconscious. People aren't always aware of stereotyping."

The three are now beginning another study that hopes to uncover how position segregation occurs. --CPS

COMPUTERS AND POLITICS: Compuserve, the computer network service, now offers two political bulletin boards -- one for Democrats and one for Republicans. The system operator of the Democratic group is Pat Shea, the Democratic state chairman of Utah. Compuserve subscribers can GO HOM-39 for the Democratic service.

COORS FOAMS: The Rocky Mountain News reports that Reagan buddy William F. Coors gave a speech before a group of minority business owners on February 23 in which he said that in Rhodesia, the economy was booming under white management. Now in Zimbabwe, under black management, it is a disaster. Coors went on, "It's not that the dedication among blacks is less. They lack the intellectual capacity to succeed and it's taking them down the tubes."

Remarked Denver city councilmember Hiawatha Davis, "I believe that it's indicative of (Coors's) view of all 800 million blacks on this planet."

Meanwhile, the national boycott of Coors led by the AFL-CIO has produced a drop in Coors beer in all its established markets. Sales in 1983 were down 45.7% in Mississippi compared with 1982 and down 11% in California.

WATCH THIS ONE: To date, the criminal facts in the growing string of executions have tended to be

clear cut, denying death penalty opponents examples of the sort of case in which the nagging questions remains: did the accused really do it? Now, however, there is a case that may provide more than normal interest because of doubts about the condemned man's guilt. James Adams was convicted and sentenced to death in St. Lucie, Florida, in March for the felony murder of a white man named Edgar Brown. According to the DC Coalition Against the Death Penalty, Adams steadily maintained his innocence before, during subsequent to the trial. He was convicted on the basis of wholly circumstantial evidence, while evidence beneficial to him was not made available to his lawyers.

Although one witness identified Adams as the man seen parked and driving in the vicinity of the deceased's home, the only witness who saw a man leave the Brown residence at the approximate time of the homicide, and who spoke with that person, said it was definitely not Adams. The person he had spoken with, said the man, was blacker than

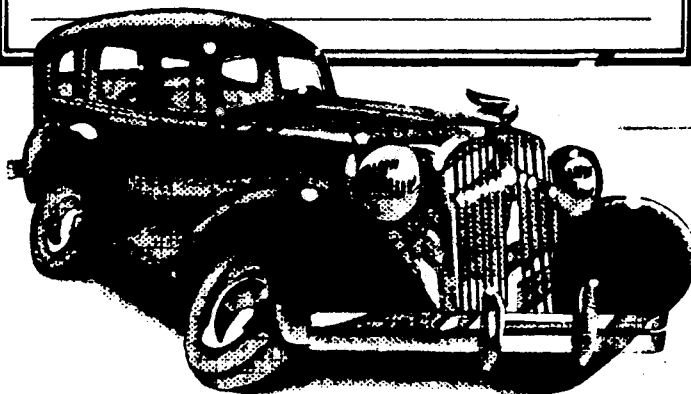
Adams and had no mustache. He also reported hearing a woman's voice from inside the house before seeing the man exit.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement, despite defense requests for them to do so, did not provide to Adams's lawyers a report of exculpatory evidence found at the scene of the crime. A hair removed from the palm of the victim's hand was determined not to be from Adams - which strongly suggested that Adams was not the murderer. This evidence was withheld from the defense counsel.

Recent investigation by a twenty-year veteran of the Philadelphia Homicide Unit, says DCCADP, argues convincingly for James Adams's innocence and suggests the identity of the real murderer. The DCCADP can be contacted at PO Box 11185, DC 20008.

NEW VDT STUDY: The San Jose Mercury News reports that the National Institute for Occupational Safety

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The Progressive Review

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The Review welcomes articles and letters but unfortunately can not pay for them. All submissions should be made with a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish the material returned.

Deadline for editorial and advertising matter: 15th of the month.

EDITOR: SAM SMITH

CONTRIBUTING CORRESPONDENTS: Charles McDowell, Eugene McCarthy, Chuck Stone

CARTOONIST: John Wiebenson

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and Health is planning a new study of video display terminals. The study will compare 1500 pregnant women who use VDTs with another 1500 women who do not. The study comes in the wake of nine clusters of birth defects and miscarriages among US and Canadian women who work with computer terminals. Some 14 states are pondering measures aimed at protecting workers from possible health hazards of VDTs.

LONGER KINDERGARTEN: David Jones, the head of the New York City Youth Bureau, has proposed that an optional after-school program be implemented at 60 schools in the city, extending kindergarten classes to six pm. The experiment, which would cost \$2.7 million is aimed at helping single, working parents who have trouble finding afternoon care for their children.

NON-PROFIT RUBBERS: Planned Parenthood clinics have sold more than one million condoms under the PP brand name since last summer. Now the organization is thinking of moving beyond its own facilities and into the pharmacy. Says PP representative Sandra Grymes, "Our competitors don't see us a major threat yet, but they know we have a good idea and are watching us closely."

MS. OKAYED: A California judge has ruled that students have the same right of access to Ms. magazine as they have to any other publication in their high school library. Requiring them to obtain parental permission, a restriction imposed by the school board, would violate their rights under the California constitution. He added that parents of minors can object to their children using certain materials -- provided they do so in writing -- Come Unity.

ANOTHER LIBRARY CIRCULATION SUBPOENA: When Marie Bruce, director of the Huntington Memorial Library in Oneonta, NY, was shown threats against President Reagan scrawled in a library book, she immediately informed the FBI. The next day, a Secret Service agent arrived, confiscated the book, and demanded circulation records. Bruce told him that under New York's library confidentiality law, she could not release circulation records without a subpoena. He accused her of being uncooperative, told her not to leave town, called the New York statute "some silly state law," and said that federal law superceded it. It was not until six days later and further harrassment by the Secret Service that Bruce was served with the subpoena she had requested. Supported by representatives of the

New York Library Association and the New York Civil Liberties Union, she presented her testimony to a federal grand jury and turned over the circulation records. As a result of the information, the only person who had checked out the book was located in hours, he admitted having written the threats and was taken into custody. A complaint about the treatment of Bruce has been filed against the Secret Service. So far, 23 states have laws to protect the confidentiality of library circulation records. -- Come Unity.

ANTI-HUNGER MEETING: More than two hundred anti-hunger activists meeting in Washington in June urged Congress and the administration to end cuts in domestic nutrition programs, halt some increases in non-Central American military aid, provide funds for health care programs for hundreds of thousands of children worldwide, and rush emergency food and other aid to Africa. The group, organized by Bread for the World, said that three to four million people could die this year if greater aid was not provided Africa. The UN has estimated that 100-150 million people will be affected by the African drought this year. The 45,000 member Bread for the World

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Common Sense is Florida's oldest (est. 1974) and leading libertarian newsletter and is published 6 times a year at an annual subscription rate of eight dollars per year, for libertarians and other friends of liberty. Sample issue available \$1.00. Please send all correspondence and subscriptions to Common Sense/LPDC, P.O. Box 650051, Miami, Florida 33165.

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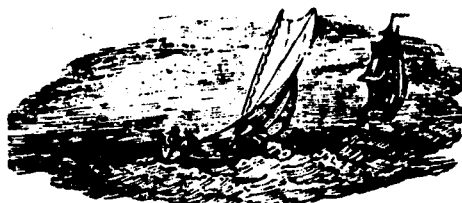


Washington
Gas



TOPICS

Sam Smith



Spoils of defeat

I'm writing this shortly before the Democratic convention, or memorial service, as the case may be. Once again, absent some evangelical turning towards the light at the last moment, the assembled delegates will choose as their presidential candidate a nominee who has demonstrated, more than anything else, his weakness as a challenger to the Great Prevaricator.

It is hard to overestimate the masochism involved in this act. Polls and primaries have shown repeatedly that America does not love, need or, in many cases, even approve of Walter Mondale. This may be America's loss -- but it remains, if not a fact, then an overwhelmingly justified supposition. But half a delegation, half a delegation, half a delegation onward, into the valley of death rode the San Francisco 4000.

The blame for this dismal state of affairs must be broadly shared. The party rules clearly made it appear that the Mondale was more popular than he was; there might have been several roll calls if the Democrats had not rigged the primary counts so that those smart enough to recognize that Mondale was not the one had not had their concerns tossed aside because they failed to reach a capricious and self-defeating "threshold." You would never guess it from the coverage, but Mondale won only about 38% of the primary votes, while Gary got Hart got nearly 37%.

The media, of course, played its role, too -- a loose cannon careening around the decks of Democratic politics. The irony of modern politics is that the old machines are gone, but they have been replaced by new machines (of which the media is the most powerful) -- the primary characteristic of which is that they affect deeply the course of politics but with goals that are largely non-political. Whatever you might say about Richard Daley, at least he manipulated politics for political reasons. For

the networks, politics is just a tool of show business. The effects of having powerful forces such as the media, pollsters, and professional image-twisters using politics for apolitical (and essentially commercial) reasons creates a politics that is random, mercurial and destructive to the semi-rational discussion and debate that must exist to some degree for a democracy to be worth the name.

There was the further, and seemingly incurable, problem that the Democratic Party hasn't had an idea since the anti-poverty program, which was amply demonstrated by Mondale, but also to a lesser extent by Hart and Jackson. Hart served to remind people of the problem by calling for new ideas, but he failed to suggest any that caught the imagination of those other than his speechwriters. And Jackson, despite being a new political phenomenon, ran on a basically traditional and vague peace, equity and jobs program. When he tried to get specific, as with run-off primaries, he tended to show that he didn't understand the problem all that well.

Finally, the blame must be shared by all those groups that were more interested in taking control of the Democratic Party than in defeating Ronald Reagan. It was an eclectic cabal ranging from the AFL-CIO to NOW and the Jacksonites. In recent weeks, NOW offered a particularly striking example of this sort of myopic politics, in effect adopting the thesis that having a woman vice president was more important than anything a second Reagan administration might do to women. Of course, NOW was only doing noisily what labor, education, oil and gas and other interests do quietly over the phone, but it was a reminder of the extent to which Democratic politics remains an intramural game.

But here we are, left with little but Yogi Berra's dictum that the game isn't over until it's over. We can hope that somehow the inanity, insensitivity and impropriety of the

Reagan administration will manifest itself before it's too late, perhaps with some monumental gaffe during a debate or perhaps with one invasion too many. But short of that, there isn't much to look forward to, for the truth of the matter is that the way the Democratic Party is working these days, it could have beaten itself even without Reagan. Add to that the recent Gallup poll that found that 52% of Americans don't even know that the deficit is larger than it was five years ago (six times large in fact) and it looks like another long four years.

Towards 1988

Which, if nothing else, gives us some time to do it better next time. There is much that could be done to make it easier on whoever runs for president in 1988.

For example, the progressive interest groups could put away their futile sectarianism and think in terms of true coalition politics. The NOW vice presidential gambit reminds us how far we are from this at the moment. Everybody is so busy throwing their bit of weight around, and so insistent on their own particular brand of high principle, that they are incapable of empathizing with other people's problems and goals. One shouldn't have to choose between black, feminist, environmental or peace issues. They should be part of a package.

A first logical step would be for those who are leading the various segments of the progressive movement to sit down and talk to one another. Better yet would be for representatives of local and regional organizations to sit down and talk to one another -- and then tell the national leaders what to say to one another. Not to find out where they disagree, not to argue about who is more righteous or whether a black and woman vice president is more politically correct, but to

determine those issues upon which there is agreement and then join forces to do something about them. There needs, in short, to be a progressive agenda -- simple, succinct, and comprehensible to the average person, the attainment of which would become a major goal of a broad range of progressive organizations. Such an agenda would not preclude pressing the more specific goals of each organization, but it would increase the chance that something good would come of all the news conferences, newsletters, speeches and reports.

Unfortunately, the dirty little secret of progressive politics is that the leaders of these groups like playing in their own mud puddle, getting their own time on television, being the guru of this movement or that. The Naders, Goldsmiths and Jacksons of America really don't like the idea of giving up their ideological fiefdoms in the interests of something bigger.

They are going to have to be pressured just like the mainstream

politicians. To a surprising extent, they have, in fact, become mainstream politicians. Like mainstream politicians they consider their constituents good largely for votes and money.

Think of the national good-cause organizations to which you belong. How many have asked you for anything else? How many have a functioning local chapter to which you could belong and in which you could participate? When was the last time any asked your opinion about anything?

In all too many cases, what they want is for you to pay your dues and shut up, leaving the real work to the centralized staff in Washington (increasingly populated by lawyers).

Further, in all too many cases, the concentration on a narrow view of the problem leaves the organization a no-show even on issues that should be important to it. Why has Ralph Nader been so weak on issues of economic democracy that could greatly affect the fate of the

consumer? Why have black mayors consistently allowed white business interests to flourish in a manner inconsistent with the interests of their black constituency? Indeed, why is there no progressive economics organization on a par with the other special interest groups?

Any hope for changing the politics of America rests in part on changing the nature of progressive politics. The elitist, Washington-oriented, centralized, sectarian politics of the progressive movement must be fundamentally altered. And doing this requires an understanding that the present way of doing things is part of the problem.

That which

Add to the numerous failings of the Democratic Party this year the charge of gratuitous muddling of the language, aided and abetted by none less than the New York Times. The

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RADICAL FEMINIST ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: New group which plans to provide a forum for the development of feminist theory and strategy, and for various kinds of direct action. Info: RFOC, 109 Ellerbe St., Durham NC 27704.

THE BROWN PAPERS: New quarterly published by the National Institute for Women of Color. First issue discusses the role of women of color in the American political system, discusses the problems and history of various ethnic groups and suggests an approach for the future. Subscriptions are \$15 from NIWC, 1712 N St NW DC 20036



Describes 40 of the best films, videotapes and slideshows on El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, with a special section on Grenada. Available for \$2 plus 50¢ postage from Media Network, 208 W. 13 St., New York, NY 10011. Call (212) 620-0877 to inquire about rates for bulk orders.

MEDICARE SELF-HELP FOR THE ELDERLY: A self-help series on Medicare rights has been published by Legal Counsel for the Elderly. There are four books in the series. The entire set costs \$19.95 plus \$1 postage. They can also be purchased individually. Info: Legal Counsel for the Elderly, PO Box 19269-K DC 20036.

NUTRITION AND HEALTH POSTERS: The Center for Science in the Public Interest has a fine set of informative and attractive posters on health and nutrition issues. Also books on health issues. For catalog write CSPI, 1755 S NW, DC 20009

DEMYSTIFYING HOMOSEXUALITY: A TEACHING GUIDE ABOUT LESBIANS AND GAY MEN: 175-page book being used in some California schools, has 18 lesson plans and a question and answer section. \$12.95 plus \$1.75 postage from Todd Publications, PO Box 1097, Lenox Hill Station, NYC NY 10021.

PLACES OF INTEREST TO WOMEN, US AND CANADA: Covers women centers, groups, bars, restaurants, hotels, bookstores, religious groups, archives and land collectives. The guide also has a special section for older lesbians and women of color. Publisher Marianne Ferrari says researchers spent more than two years visiting the places listed in the guide, which is updated two months before publication. \$8 from Ferrari Publications, PO Box 35575, Phoenix AR

Fear and Hope: Toward Political Democracy in Central America, written by Penny Lernoux and published by the New York-based Field Foundation, examines past and current U.S. policies toward Central America through a cultural framework. The report offers both analysis and action suggestions for individuals and organizations seeking to foster democratic growth in Central America.

Penny Lernoux, author of the award winning *Cry of the People*, has lived in Latin America for over twenty-three years.

Small quantities of the report are available from the Field Foundation at no charge. Larger quantities are available at cost. For further information, contact: The Field Foundation, 100 East 85th Street, New York, NY 10028, (212) 535-9917.

THE MEL KING CAMPAIGN AND COALITION POLITICS IN THE 80S: Special issue of *Radical America* examines the rainbow coalition campaign of black Boston mayoral candidate Mel King. \$4.50 from *Radical America*, 38 Union Square, Somerville, MA 02143.

NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST CENSORSHIP: More than 40 national groups make up this organization which has a newsletter and can provide speakers. Info: NCAC, 132 W 43rd St., NYC NY 10036.

SENECA ENCAMPMENT: The Women's Encampment for Peace and Justice is hosting its second annual peace camp this summer outside the gates of the Seneca Army Depot in upstate New York. That military facility is believed to hold nuclear missiles that are being shipped to Europe for deployment. Info: Seneca Encampment, 5440 Rte 96, Romulus, NY 14541.

GREEN MOVEMENT: Several Vermonters are planning a founding convention of a US Green movement for next April. Write Green Movement c/o Gloria Goldberg, Box 91, Marshfield VT. 05658.

GETTING THE KIDS OUT OF JAIL

Michael Kroll

Our nation's corrections system now inspires a grim litany of statistics. Despite a continuing drop in crime rates, a greater percentage of Americans are behind bars today than at any time in our history. In 39 states, courts have ruled that at least some of those in prison suffer cruel and unusual punishment. And 1,300 people, the largest number ever, are under sentence of death.

But there is at least one ray of light in this otherwise gloomy picture, and in an unlikely place -- the state of Utah.

Utah is in its sixth year of experimenting with a program designed to remove as many juveniles as possible from "secure detention," and to promote individualized plans for the few who do require such detention in small, community-based facilities.

Six years ago, there were 400 kids locked up in Utah's Youth Development Center in Ogden -- the former Territorial Reform School. Russel VanVleet, now state director of Youth Corrections, says "abuse and institutional evil" were the norm at YDC. The rate of youngsters confined, and the conditions of their confinement, were similar to those found in the rest of the country.

Today, the picture is totally different. The old Center has been converted into an area occupational center, and across the state only 44 young people are in secure detention, and those 44 are being housed rather than warehoused, helped rather than hurt.

This transformation, still in progress, began with the inauguration of Governor Scott Matheson in 1977. A Democrat willing to take chances, he appointed Tony Mitchell executive director of the Utah's Dept. of Social Service (DSS) which controlled juvenile corrections. Mitchell was 36, and "very willing to take risks."

As an employee of DSS, Mitchell had once toured the state's juvenile facilities -- and come away dismayed. Now he wanted to do something about it.

Soon after he became DSS director, Mitchell heard a speech by Jerome Miller, one-time head of the Massachusetts' juvenile justice system. Miller outlined his work there, which included moving kids from locked facilities into the community.

His success showed on the state's books. When Miller took over in 1969, about 95 percent of his budget was allocated for institutions, mostly for staff salaries, while only five percent went to community-based programs. When he left in 1974, those figures were exactly reversed.

Mitchell, impressed, introduced Miller to Gov. Matheson, who then appointed a task force on criminal justice

and, later, one on the juvenile justice system.

At the same time, a separate Youth Correctional Services unit was formed within DSS and Mitchell began talking about closing the Center and moving youths into the community. The state's family judges opposed both the closing and the new division, until Matheson jawboned them into grudging acceptance. The Juvenile Justice Task Force issued a comprehensive report which, rather than inspiring the inaction which usually greets such efforts, resulted in the systematic implementation of its recommendations -- including the closing of the 300-400 unit Youth Center, opening of two 30-bed "secure" facilities, and the creation of alternatives that provide continuing, individualized plans.

The task force called for a new system which emphasizes guidance and is family-centered. Central to this philosophy is the notion of letting juveniles choose among available options.

This sort of involvement is crucial. As the report says, "The more involuntary the rehabilitation process, the more extensive will be the time and effort necessary to change behavior."

As in Massachusetts, funds for the new system came directly out of the institutional budget. With normal staff attrition, retraining and some "reduction in force" among those least able to adapt to the dismantling of the old system, the new division has been able to establish a variety of programs.

Youths first spend from one to thirteen weeks in an "Observation and Assessment Unit" to match them to appropriate programs. These include group homes with a "Mom and Pop," as well as homes with round-the-clock therapeutic staff. There are also "proctor" programs in which a child lives with a single young adult trained to act as supporter, advocate and provider.

A few enter specialized foster care homes, or stay with their families and participate in day-treatment programs -- sometimes within the public schools. Extensive family counseling completes the mix.

These in-community programs are reimbursed on a fee-for-service basis -- giving the community itself a financial stake in assuring that they continue, and that the state does not go back to the correctional warehousing.

Corrections chief VanVleet believes the system works simply "because it reduces the harm done to residents of large impersonal institutions."

Tony Mitchell, now a school superintendent, says the effort is no longer experimental. He points out that there has been no effort

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What's a Progressive?

One of my reference books defines a progressive as a "member of a predominantly agrarian minor party split off from the Republicans in the early 20th century and advocating domestic reforms designed primarily to reduce the power of and eliminate abuses alleged to be perpetrated by the great industrial and financial interests."

Now I ask you, Sam: minor party, OK, but agrarian? I know you wanted to be Secretary of Agriculture of the District of Columbia but this is going too far.

Furthermore, while to follow in the footsteps of people like La Follette is wonderful, do you want to be known as the continuation of the intellectual tradition of Henry Wallace?

I think you should consider carefully which progressive tradition you will be representing since I doubt that the grand La Follette would agree to a definition of progressive as a "member of a left-wing minor party split off from the Democrats and associated with essentially socialist domestic policies and a pro-Russian foreign policy."

Take your pick: minor agrarian party split off from the Republicans or a minor left-wing party split off from the Democrats. But don't stop there.

Are you aware of the progressive dunkers? They were "religious brethren who because of their desire for more stress on education, for a church polity that was congregational, for less rigid rules regarding plain dress, left the Church of the Brethren in 1882 and formed the Brethren Church."

Somehow I like that. Our editor breaking off from the establishment because of a belief in education, democracy and plain dress.

My son calls me a conservative moderate and himself a liberal progressive. (He's been studying for the advanced placement history test and has thus fallen for the label disease.) Indeed, I think there should be a truth in labelling act for historians and journalists.

What is a progressive journal? Left wing? Right wing? Middle of the

right? Middle of the Left? Lost in a fog?

Any tradition which can claim Theodore Roosevelt, Robert La Follette, Henry Wallace, Woodrow Wilson, William Jennings Bryan, Henry Cabot Lodge, and Albert Beveridge as constituents is clearly in need of better membership criteria.

By the way, you ought to check the histories on the link between progressivism and the "Wisconsin idea." As one p----- historian has said, "Progressivism moved from local and state levels to national politics. It was in the state governments that the new agencies of regulation first went into operation and that a substantial place for experts in legislation was first created. The trial ground for the role of experts in political life was not Washington but the state capitals, particularly Madison, Wisconsin, which offered the first example of experts in the service of 'the people' and the state."

Are you aware of the the role that classic progressivism has given to "experts" in politics? Yes, progressivism has emphasized the local as opposed to the state, and the state as opposed to the national, but progressives in Wisconsin and elsewhere also believed that "of necessity the functions of government would become more complex and as they did so, experts would be in greater demand. In the interests of democracy itself, the old Jacksonian suspicion of experts must be abated."

Now, Sam, I ask you again; is your suspicion of experts abated? Are you willing to trust the hundreds, nay, thousands of consultants, think-tank spokespeople, economists, and suchlike that are paraded to convince us of everything from the beneficial effects of agent orange to the value of flouride in our toothpaste? Before declaring yourself the spokesvehicle of resurgent progressive thought you should really look at the background of the tradition you now propose to represent. It is, like most

political traditions, ambivalent and polyvocal.

If you are going to be midwife to a new progressive baby, at least determine its sex.

If you ask me, what you really are is an unreconstructed Jacksonian. If there is one political tradition which fits you as comfortably as a good pair of sweats it is Jackson's. In your saner moments you might be a Whig but in the end you'd go with Jackson rather than Biddle or Taylor.

Tread carefully, my editor. In my opinion, better progressive jazz than most progressive politics. Them that blew were generally honest whereas them that railed were often not.

Yours for clarity in thought and honesty in tone and for the resurrection of only a usable past.

LAWRENCE G SMITH
San Paulo Brazil

(I am reminded of Tuli Kupferberg's observation that those who remember history are condemned to repeat it. Consider the Baltimore Orioles. They do not fly. Consider Ronald Reagan claiming to be of the same political party as Abraham Lincoln or Arthur Vandenberg or Wendell Wilkie. Find, if you will, the crest in Crest. Or the pot of gold at the end of the Rainbow Coalition.

Over the past few years, the term "progressive," with some assistance from this quarter, has been increasingly used by those who wished to separate themselves from traditional liberal, socialist or conservative thought and labelling. For all the pitfalls (I assume you listed them all), "progressive" carries relatively little ideological baggage, except in the minds of those like yourself who actually remember who Albert Beveridge was. One of the basic requirements of a good political label is that it not be too clear. Clarity may be an advantage to an historian; politicians tend to find it reduces the constituency.

Progressive is a perfectly good word -- if somewhat vague, that is finding yet another definition for

(Please turn to page 18)



SAM SMITH

FAREWELL AND WELCOME ABOARD: Ben Gilbert, the former Post editor and planning director, who was one of the more engaging antagonists with whom we tussled over the years, is moving to the west coast. To our pleasant surprise he told the Post's Dorothy Gilliam that "for the long-range solution to home rule, I've come to think (with some modification of the present constitution) that it has to be statehood."

LIBRARY CONFIDENTIALITY: The city council is considering a bill restricting access to public library borrowing records. Twenty-three states currently have such laws. The bill would prevent release of circulation information except with the written consent of the patron or under court order. Says ACLU local assistant director Stuart Gay, the bill "will protect library patrons from vigilante moralists: groups seeking to harass library patrons

who read books that do not meet their approval" and from "unnecessary government intrusion into private affairs."

THE POST COMES CLEAN: Those who have been perplexed by the right's peculiar insistence that the Washington Post is a liberal newspaper may find reassurance in recent remarks by executive editor

(Please turn to page 15)

MORE ON GREENS: Last month we suggested that the DC Statehood Party change its name to the DC Green Party. The June 21 New York Times had an interesting article on how the German Greens were doing. It noted:

"The days are over when the breezy conventional wisdom in Bonn had it that the Green Party was a flash in the pan, a minor disturbance on the tranquil surface of West Germany's orderly and predictable politics, soon to be swept into oblivion by the conservatism of the nation's voters.

"Since Sunday, when the five-year-old party received an impressive 8.2 percent of the popular vote in elections to the European Parliament, *** the conventional wisdom has been drastically revised. The assumption now is that the Greens, whose political success defies the notion that parties must be harmonious and well-organized, will be around for a long time."

The Times also reported that the Greens in the Hesse state legislature had entered into an agreement which permitted the Social Democrats to end two years of minority rule. Under the accord, the Greens will help the Social Democrats pass their budget and the Social Democrats, in return, will stop building new nuclear plants, cut back on the dumping of chemical wastes and restrict the expansion of autobahns.

REPORT CARD

	ELECTION CHANGES	FINANCE REPORT	TOTAL	GRADE
MASON	-3		10	B
KANE	-3		6	B
WILSON	-3		5	C
CLARKE	-3		-6	D
WINTER	-3		-8	D
ROLARK	-3		-9	D
-----COUNCIL AVERAGE-----				
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SMITH	-3		-11	D
MOORE	-3		-16	F
RAY	-3		-16	F
CRAWFORD	-3		-19	F
SPAULDING	-3		-19	F
JARVIS	-3		-23	F
BARRY	-3	-2	-30	F

Here's our monthly scorecard on the city council and the mayor. Generally we give two points plus or minus for a vote or mayoral signing, one point plus or minus for a public position taken without doing anything, and three points on especially important issues. Any corrections can be phoned to the review (232-5544) and we will publish them in the next issue:

ELECTION CHANGES: This latest

playing around with the election laws involves placing the school board and neighborhood commission elections at the same times as the city council contests. Sounds nice and organized, but in fact is an attempt to politicize the non-partisan school board and ANC contests.

FINANCE REPORT: Mayor Barry loses two points for failing to provide an interim financial report to the city council.

CHARLES MCDOWELL

A phone for the car?

WASHINGTON — I do not have a telephone in my car. But I do have an ordinary, one-way radio, and it is carrying a lot of commercials these days for the new cellular car telephones that are going to change all our lives.

The commercials, are strange. They are devoted mainly to telling me about the trouble I will have if I get my cellular car telephone from the wrong company.

There seem to be many wrong companies. Some will sell me a car telephone but won't service it. Others will service my car telephone but won't be responsible for whether I can actually call somebody up on it. Still others will transmit my calls but, I am told, don't really care about me and my phone. All these knocks against companies in the car phone business are sponsored by competing companies in the car phone business, promising me a better deal. So far, my impression is generally negative. The whole thing sounds like a cell of grumps and put-down artists.

But, riding around the Washington area, I see all sorts of people talking on phones in their cars.

Senior officers and civilian officials from the Pentagon seem to stay constantly in touch with headquarters while being driven about. Or maybe they are speaking to troops in the field, or their spouses, or who knows.

Members of Congress are using car telephones more and more, and so are lobbyists and public-relations types who travel in the fast lane. I got a call at the office the other day, presumably from the fast lane, and the message was: "Brrp flrrp breep, breep, breep . . . Jockey Club. Bye." The caller, whoever it was, obviously was at the edge of his range. I think I missed a free lunch at the Jockey Club.

Car phones are catching on in the slow lane, too. Outbound on the 14th Street bridge recently, in a traffic jam that reached to the horizon, a young man in a pickup truck was singing along with a bluegrass band on the radio — into his telephone.

If these things are going to change the quality and lore of our lives, I want to know more about cellular telephones. So I called up an expert at one of the companies (it used to be the C&P Telephone Co. in Washington, but now it is something Mobile, in New Jersey).

The expert said the sudden car phone activity was attributable to a new technology, cellular radio. Low-power transmitters, each covering a relatively small zone or "cell," are scattered around a large area. As a customer drives from cell to cell, his signal is passed from transmitter to transmitter. This scheme, further expanded by multiple channels, allows clear communication by car telephone over an area as large, say, as the Washington-Baltimore metropolis.

"Could I call up anybody I wanted to in the area?" I asked the expert.

Sure, she said, or I might patch into a switchboard and call California.

"Could people dial my mobile number and get me in my car?"

Oh, yes, anybody, she said.

I didn't tell her how that disappointed me. I suppose I wouldn't mind being reminded to bring home a quart of milk — although it's not quite life in the fast lane — but I really don't want to get calls in my car from real estate promoters who have a prize for me if I visit Retirement Acres.

Get an unlisted number, you say.

(Please turn to page 18)

CHUCK STONE

Letter to a friend

Old Friend:

As you pointed out during our long conversation a few weeks ago in Chicago, our friendship goes back many years.

Our disagreements may be severalfold over scripture, political strategies, black-white relationships and the historical value of black-Jewish unity.

But we do walk hand in hand on the need for strong, independent black leadership, accountable first to the black community.

Ironically, some of your public remarks in recent weeks have sabotaged that goal.

Especially for our beloved friend, the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

I don't think I misrepresent your integrity by suggesting that some of your public statements have crippled Brother Jackson's effectiveness within his chosen political arena.

Were his candidacy not dedicated to forging a coalition of consciences, your polemics against Jews could be dismissed as one man's misguided opinion.

But as the Nation of Islam minister, you played a prominent — and for supporters of Jesse Jackson's quest, productive — role as an early ally when others, like Judas, had denied him.

I go back to something you said during this year's Saviors' Day celebration in Chicago.

"We can afford to lose an election. But we cannot afford to lose this brother."

Amen!

But Louis, we are losing this brother. We are losing the stature of his moral authority.

We are losing the power of his brokerage. We are losing the influence of his endorsement.

We are losing the grandeur of his vision.

Not solely because of your sweeping condemnations of Jews, but because such bigotry — aggravated by an *equally bigoted media* — has forced Jesse to respond repeatedly to your latest acerbity.

In Cuba, Jesse accomplished a phenomenal humanitarian task.

Yet, the first question at his press conference with Cuba Premier Fidel Castro was: "Reverend Jackson, it has been 48 hours now since Louis Farrakhan called Judaism a gutter religion . . . Do you finally have any reaction to that and do you repudiate those remarks?"

Surely, you must be mildly aware of the extent you have been made Jesse's major campaign issue instead of racism, poverty, sexism, the criminal injustice system, political inequities, miseducation of minorities, support for South African apartheid and economic oppression of the Third World.

This controversy has acquired its own life force. Even the racists — including Ronald Reagan — haven't been that successful.

But there's a larger issue.

The sanctity of all religions.

Whether you called Judaism a "dirty religion" or a "gutter religion" is a hair-splitting abomination.

The Quran is omniscient. *Ye have your religion and I, my religion.*

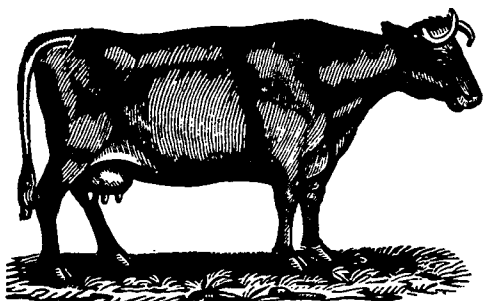
The binding ideal behind Jesus' injunction, *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them*, applies as lovingly to Jews who have survived together in the splendor of Yahweh as it does to Muslims who have worshipped together in the goodness of Allah.

When you degrade an entire religion, you debauch that God-created diversity.

And when our so-called allies oppress us, we must not reciprocate in kind. Otherwise, how do we differ from these hypocrites?

(Please turn to page 19)

THE GAZETTE BOOKSHELF



THE PORTABLE TOLSTOY: Includes "The Kreutzer Sonata," passages from his childhood, youth and military life, Episodes from "The Cossaks," long and short stories, the play "The Power of Darkness," philosophic, religious, social and critical writings, chronology, bibliography. \$6.95

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A BOOK LENGTH collection of essays by editor Sam Smith culled from 15 years of the DC Gazette (and a few other places). Topics cover a wide field including, trains, England, music, home computers, football, the humanities, pumping iron, Benjamin Franklin, corruption, ghostwriters, on turn-forty, Martin Luther King and words and meaning. If you have enjoyed the Gazette, we believe you will find this collection appealing, not to mention your friends who may never have become acquainted but might be interested. Only \$2.00.

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THE ESSENTIAL EARTHMAN: Henry Mitchell on Gardening. This is not just another book on gardening but the thoughts of an enthusiast who comes to the subject with reverence, passion, humor and a sober knowledge of human frailty. The Essential Earthman believes, for example, "a lawn 17 by 20 feet is just fine, if you think a lawless life is not worth living *** But I suspect many gardeners would do well to think of something besides grass and the little noisy juggernauts you cut with." This is a collection of many of Mitchell's most popular pieces from the Washington Post. ~~\$12.95~~ ~~\$10.95~~ **\$8.87**

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By Sam Smith

"CAPTIVE CAPITAL" tells the story of non-federal Washington, the city beyond the monuments. Published in 1974, on the eve of an elected government in DC, it tells of the city's struggle for independence and self-respect. Written by Gazette editor Sam Smith.

Originally sold for \$8.50, the book is now available for \$6.84

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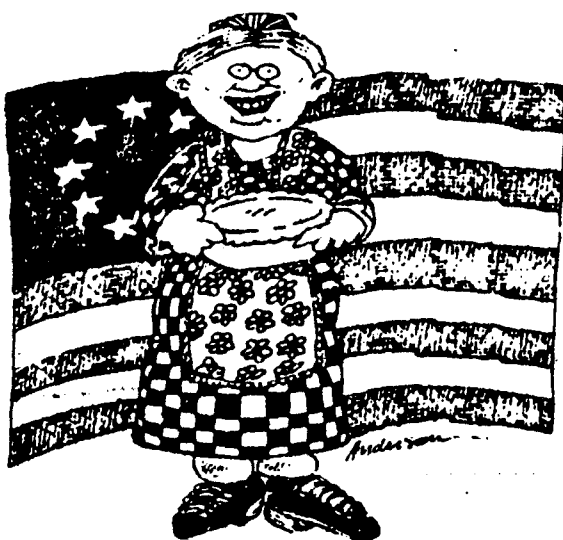
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Apple Pie

America's favorite car is a truck. The best selling domestic vehicle in the first four months of this year was the Ford pickup -- more than 400,000 were sold. In fact, it has been trucks, not cars, that have been responsible for Detroit's comeback.

Can a nation that put a man on the moon build a decent orbital toilet? The answer appears to be no. Despite 5 years and \$12 million worth of research, the john designed for the space shuttle has conked out on every mission but one. Frustrated

astronauts have even resorted to crowbars to temporarily unjam the flying head, but a permanent solution is not yet in sight. Says a Rockwell representative, "Even if they gave us another \$12 million, we might not be able to do it."

A new book out this summer, "The Experts Speak," will contain some of the world's great quotations that didn't get into Bartlett's. For example, there's General George Custer saying, "The army is the indian's best friend." Movie executive Irving Thalberg turned

down the rights to "Gone With the Wind," pointing out that "No Civil War picture ever made a nickel." From Major George Fielding we get the 1938 classic, "A Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor is a strategic impossibility," and from Variety, early in 1955, we learn that rock and roll music will be "gone by June."

Free Environment reports that last summer, a young man was dragged from his tent at Hegben Lake near Yellowstone National Park by a

(Please turn to page 19)

THE ETHNIC GENDER GAP

Lots is being said these days about the gender gap, but Sharon Parker, chair of the National Institute for Women of Color, points out the gap within the gap -- the ethnic gender gap. There are 27 million women of color in the United States, who suffer a disproportionate burden of poverty and inequity. Parker says, "It's incredible that presidential candidates have not made the issues of women and people of color the number one priority in this campaign. It has been shown that the votes of women and people of color make the critical difference in close races."

"Women of color, a segment of the population just beginning to make headway into better paying jobs, have been hardest hit by layoffs. Women in general are fast gaining the dubious distinction of most impoverished in the United States; women of color are already there,

suffering along with men of color almost twice the unemployment rate of whites.

"Women of color are concentrated in a small number of occupations with low wages. For example, almost 60% of black women work in only two of twelve major occupations -- clerical and service work -- compared to just over 53% of white women who work in those two occupations. From 1955 to 1981, while white women earned about 62.3% of what white men earned, black, hispanic and other women earned an average of 56.3%.

"Due to the disproportionate impact of a few job choices, low wages and high unemployment, women of color -- out of necessity -- must focus primarily on survival issues: jobs, pay, housing, health care, educational opportunity, civil rights, and family services, such as child care and school nutrition

programs. We are concerned, too, about the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and reproductive rights; but until many more of us are more assured of simply feeding, sheltering and nurturing our families, survival issues will continue to be our primary focus."

Speaking of the large number of women of color who head families, Parker says, "The point must be emphasized that the problem is not that women are heads of families, but that discrimination against women means that their families share the resulting problems. For people of color, even in two-parent or two-earner households, the lower median incomes of men add to the disproportionate problems of economic inequities and, therefore, survival. Pay equity is the single most important issue affecting all women who seek economic equity in the work place -- and is especially significant for women of color."

EUGENE MCCARTHY

National Uncle's Day?

The New York Times recently carried an article proposing to establish a national "Aunts' Day," to go along with, or supplement, Mother's Day and Father's Day, and also Grandparents' Day. Although the Times' article made no reference to the latter day, it has been in existence since 1978, when the Congress of the United States, despite its concern over difficult problems of the time, such as energy, inflation, taxes, and "detente," found time to be thoughtful and considerate. The Congress passed a resolution setting up "Grandparents' Day," and setting the first Sunday after Labor Day as the date for its observance.

The report on the resolution required by the rules of the House of Representatives an inflationary impact statement. At the time of the passage of the resolution it was predicted that establishing the special day would have no such im-

pact. The experience of the five years since the passage of the resolution seems to bear out the prediction. There is no objective evidence that the establishment of the special day has had much effect on family relationships, stability, or general happiness.

NOW AUNTS' Day is proposed. I have no particular objection to such an establishment. Aunts have been and still are important in the family structure, but their role remains what it always has been, primarily supportive, generally of mothers, sometimes of fathers, or of grandparents.

It is the role of the uncle in family functioning that needs attention, revival and recognition. Establishing a "National Uncles' Day," might do much to accomplish this objective.

The decline of the family in America, according to recent, unpublished studies of limited

scope, is directly traceable to the de-emphasis and discounting of the role of uncles. The uncle was not supportive as were aunts. Uncles were a free force. They were a place of refuge from dominating aunts (for small boys especially). Uncles were not exactly subversive of parental authority, but they were, at least, a source of contrary position and of another opinion. They were a bridge between family and society, a role not fulfilled by the traditional aunt. Uncles were useful for transmitting the facts of life, when prudish parents hesitated and the birds and bees were not understood. When the uncle prevailed, unrestrained youths were few.

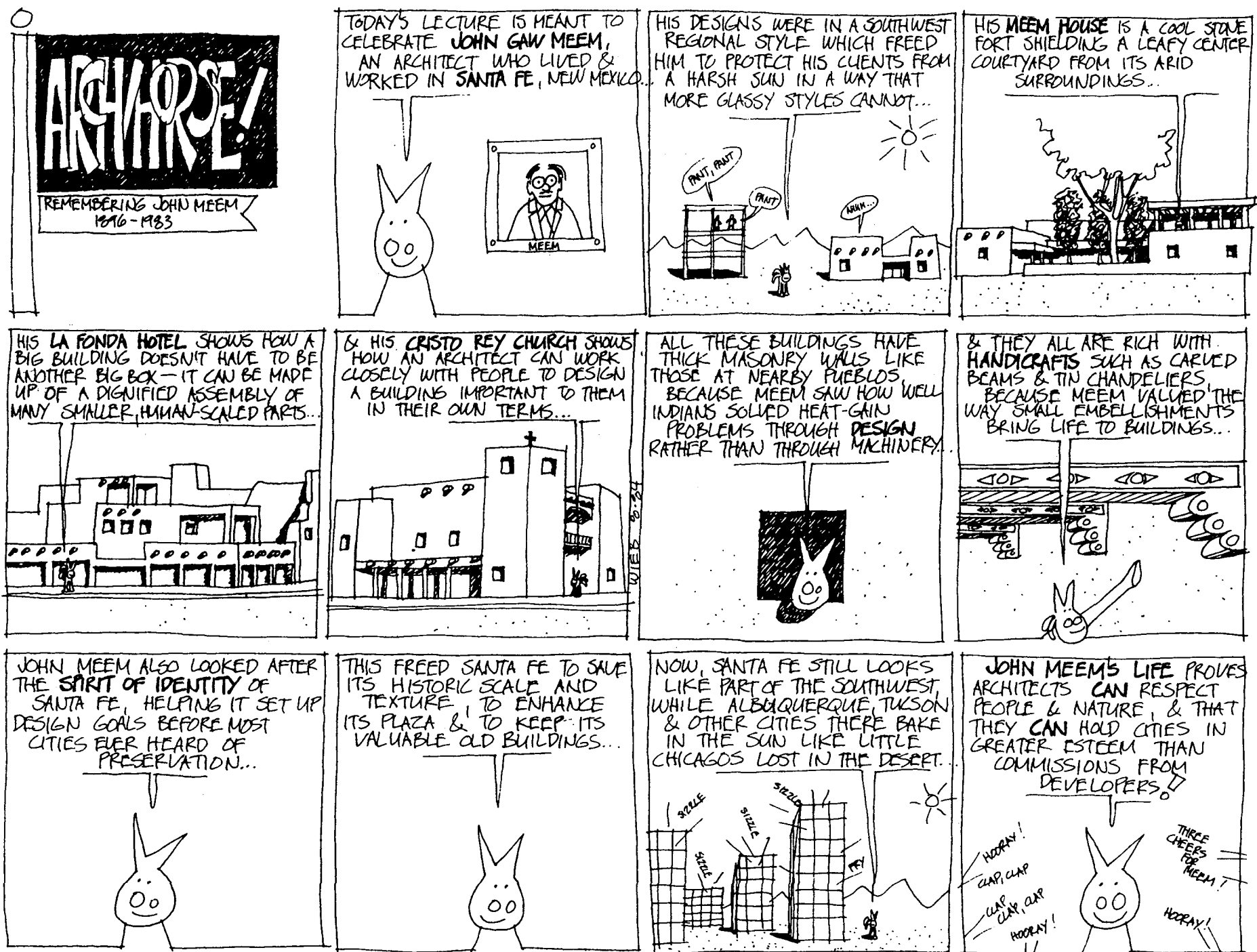
THE TERM "Dutch Uncle," a stern advisor, roughly comparable to the "Irish Aunt," has made its way into the language. But this conception of the uncle's role is at best a limited and inadequate one.

Uncles should be stern about one-fourth of the time and understanding and encouraging the other three-fourths of the time.

According to Patrick O'Connor: "All children should be Japanese./ All women (mothers and wives) Italian./ All grandparents, Jewish./ All men (husbands and fathers) Montenegrin./ All aunts, single./ And all uncles, Irish."

The essence of unclehood

(Please turn to page 19)



CITY DESK Cont'd

Benjamin Bradlee during a debate with Rupert Murdoch. Bradlee challenged Murdoch, "Tell me the last liberal stand taken by the Washington Post."

Murdoch replied, "I think you have taken a liberal bias throughout the Reagan administration."

Said Bradlee, "I think we have been kinder to President Reagan than any president I can remember since I was at the Washington Post."

RHODES REPRIEVED YET AGAIN: DC Superior Court judge Stephen F. Eilperin has blocked the demolition of Rhodes Tavern until a lawsuit by the Save Rhodes Tavern Initiative Committee is settled. The judge said the damage that would be caused by destroying the city's oldest downtown commercial structure would "far outweigh the theoretical injury to the District of Columbia and the financial loss to the developers." Those developers, the Oliver T. Carr Co., claim they are losing \$450,000 a month because the Rhodes dispute is blocking completion of a \$100 million office complex that includes the site.

The reprieve gives organizers more time to pressure the city, Carr and Equitable Life, financiers of the project, to come to their senses and incorporate the historic structure in their plans, as has been done with important old buildings at many other locations.

SOURCE OF IDEAS?: There was this strange part in the Washington Times/AP article on the mayoral junket to China: "The mayor brought DC Police Chief Maurice Turner who plans to discuss anti-drug and crowd control techniques with China's Public Security Bureau, Mr. Barry said. Drug abuse is virtually unknown in communist China and demonstrations are not tolerated. 'When the mayor of Peking was in Washington, he was interested in some of our techniques, and our chief is interested in some of the techniques they use here to combat crime,' Mr. Barry said. Mr. Barry said this did not include the Chinese punishment for many offenses -- a bullet in the back of the head." Well, that's a relief anyway.

ACCESSORY APARTMENTS: We have, from time to time, pointed out the hidden housing potential available in DC by

rezoning to permit people to install single flats in their homes. This would not only increase the number of housing units available, it would help reduce the economic stratification of neighborhoods and make it possible for more people to buy housing in the city. The Metropolitan Washington Planning and Housing Association (842-1800) has now put out an excellent and important report on accessory apartments that supports this thesis. Anyone interested in housing in DC should read and digest this report since the accessory apartment issue should be, but unfortunately isn't yet, high on the housing agenda.

TROLLIES TO STAGE COMEBACK?: Longtime readers of this journal will recall that one of our less-well received proposals was one to revive trolley service in DC. Well, that was over ten years ago. Now, fulfilling our motto, "The News Before It Happens," the city's department of public works has announced that it is seeking proposals "to determine the feasibility of reestablishing light rail trolley service in and between Georgetown, Foggy Bottom, Adams Morgan and Dupont Circle."

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

WASHINGTON AREA JEWS FOR AN ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN PEACE: This group, formed in the wake of the Lebanon invasion, has started publishing a newsletter. The first issue had articles on Israeli peace movements, views of American Jews on Middle East issues and on the need for an alternative Jewish lobby. Membership is \$5 from WAJIPP, Box 4991, DC 20008

DC TAX FACTS: Updated booklet about the city's tax structure, tax rates, tax collections and comparative tax data for the fifty states and local jurisdictions. Copies can be obtained by calling 727-6027 or writing the Office of Economic and Tax Policy, DC Department of Finance and Revenue, 300 Indiana Ave NW, Room 4030, DC.

INDICES: A STATISTICAL INDEX TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SERVICES: A quantitative report on what the DC government has done over the past three years. Lots of data that might be otherwise hard to track down. Copies are \$5 from the Office of Policy and Program Evaluation, Room 412, District Building, 14th & E NW, DC 20004.

BICYCLE ROUTES IN THE WASHINGTON AREA: the latest edition shows which routes are marked, whether the route is on or off the roadway and other suggested routes. It also includes safe riding tips, names of clubs and phone numbers for more information. \$2 by mail from the Council of Governments, Metropolitan Information Center, 1875 Eye St NW, Suite 200, DC 20006.

HARVEST OF SHAME: The Community for Creative Non-Violence is planning a month-long 'Harvest of Shame,' beginning October 1. The idea is to bring people to Washington "in a display of broad-based, multi-issue opposition to the Administration."

HOUSING WASHINGTON'S PEOPLE: PUBLIC POLICY IN RETROSPECT: A compendium of previously issued studies by the DC History and Public Policy Project of UDC. These studies cover regulation history, citizen struggles to improve housing, and the evolution of federal housing programs as they affect DC. Very valuable to anyone working on local housing issues. Available from the Department of Urban Studies, UDC, 4200 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20008 (282-2137)

ALCOHOL/DRUG HOTLINE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Washington Area Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse is looking for volunteers to help man its hotline. A commitment of four hours per week for a minimum of six months is requested. Attendance at an all-day training session and monthly clinical supervision meetings is also required. The hotline receives an average of 24,000 calls a year. Info: 682-1706.

DEMS BACK STATEHOOD: For the first time, endorsement of statehood for DC was put into the proposed national Democratic platform.

CONSTITUTION PROCEEDINGS: At present there have only been 50 copies of the proceedings of the statehood constitutional convention printed, but at recent hearings of the House DC committee, members agreed to publish additional copies.

SUPREME COURT ON SLEEP-INS: The Supreme Court has ruled 7-2 against overnight sleep-in demonstrations of the sort sponsored by the Community for Creative Non-Violence. The court said the government may prohibit such demonstrations.

DISCLOSED ANY GOOD FINANCES LATELY?: If you're wondering why your city government costs so much, you might want to check the May 18 DC Register, wherein is printed 72 pages of names of officials and candidates who are required to file financial disclosure reports. Not listed are all the bureaucrats required to keep track of this information or how often anyone other than these bureaucrats ever looks at it.

WASHINGTON POSTINGS: Continued unhappiness among the 15th Street press over the differential in progress between the board room and the news room. Newspaper Guild members got a 3.8% increase in July under their contract; meanwhile the top-paid five executives of the firm got average increases in salaries and bonuses between 1982 and 1983 of 20.3% Net income for the Post operations was, according to the Guild, up 30% for the period. Also Forbes (April 9), in an article titled "Embarrassment of Riches," points out that the Post is cash-heavy with an estimated \$200 million to be available by the end of this year, adding that "the Post Co. could end the decade with \$1 billion in liquid assets."

Meanwhile, the Guilders, in a recent newsletter offer these thoughts:

"The distribution of income is one of the crucial economic balances in society. It's one of that society's ways of defining fairness. In the United States the balance now seems to be shifting in favor of the people who occupy the upper rungs on the income ladder."

"The very large hidden costs of top-heavy compensation practices that arise from their effect on morale and wage demands by lower-level managers and rank-and-file workers. A recent Business Week survey, for example, found that top executive pay rose more than three times as fast as the rate of inflation last year. If workers should demand anything close to that rate of improvement, all the gains made against inflation in the last few years would be wiped out."

Both comments come from editorials published by the Washington Post.

ATTACK OF THE KILLER HYDRILLA:

What may turn out to be the local goof of the year is now endangering the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers -- and no one knows quite what to do about it.

The problem developed when the National Park Service introduced what it thought was a Canadian water weed into the river in an effort to find a plant what would consume algae. It turned out that what they put in wire baskets in the water at Dyke Marsh was not a Canadian water weed but hydrilla verticillata, a southern plant that has caused serious trouble elsewhere and now, after the baskets accidentally tipped over, is spreading like crazy in the local estuaries, not to mention the Reflecting Pool, where it was also placed as part of the experiment.

According to Dr Kerry Seward, a biologist with the Department of Agriculture, the plant "crowds out other plants and the vines grow in so thick a mass that you can't fish, boat or swim. We lost one of our scientists a few years back in Florida when he became entangled in it and drowned."

Further, when the stuff dies in the fall it gives off a bad odor and removes oxygen from the water. Hydrilla fouls up navigation, swimming, and the aquatic ecology in general.

JUST A LITTLE 52% MISTAKE

It turns out that the Barry administration and Metro have been blithely ignoring figures set by the city council for capital projects appropriations. In a saner time someone would be fired or impeached for this sort of thing, but in present-day DC the budget director just says, "We do our best to predict with our agencies what is to be spent. This is not a precise science unfortunately."

Thus we find Metro spending \$27 million more than the \$17.5 million in capital funds it requested. Two other agencies overspent by more than ten percent while seven agencies underspent by more than 50%. Complained city council chair David Clarke to administration officials, "You feel free to spend more money than you said you were going to spend, less money than you were going to spend, or money for projects you didn't even tell us you were going to spend anything on."

This is the third year that the administration has had to account on a line item basis for its capital funds and according to member Betty Ann Kane, "They always borrow much, much more than they spend" and "they don't care what they spend the money on."

Cleveland Park residents are getting nervous about increased talk of Connecticut Avenue development. And a recent party for Citizens for City Living, the group that fought a succession of plans for McLean Gardens and other development proposals, wasn't all nostalgia. There was considerable support for reviving the organization should the Connecticut Avenue front get hot.



Roses & Thorns

ROSES TO TED GAY who for the past three years has been a decent and fair chair of the local Democratic Party and helped mightily to retire the party's debt. The power hogs down at city hall felt he wasn't loyal enough to the mayor and so managed to oust him in favor of Ivanhoe Donaldson.

ROSES TO SENATOR TED KENNEDY for introducing a DC statehood bill in the Senate.

ROSES TO NEW YORK ARTIST MICHAEL LEBRON who spent over \$3000 of his own money to produce and place seven anti-Reagan posters recently displayed at Metro subway stations. The posters, under the headline, 'Tired of the Jellybean Republic?', featured a photomontage of Reagan and aides appearing to be chortling at a group of unemployed workers. The \$3000, incidentally, didn't include the legal fees spent trying to convince Metro to permit the posters, which, according to Lebron, were "kind of fierce."

ROSES TO DAVID SHRIBMAN, former New York Times reporter, who quit his job rather than accept an assignment as UN bureau chief. Shribman was working in the Times's Washington office. The problem was that his wife had just started a job at US News & World Report. According to the Washingtonian, NYT editor Abe Rosenthal flew down to Washington to deal personally with Shribman's recalcitrance, demanding: who counts more -- the New York Times or your wife? Shribman quit on the spot, and was quickly hired by the Wall Street Journal.

THORNS TO THE FINE ARTS COMMISSION for approving a hotel and office complex that would abut, and visually intrude upon, Rock Creek Park.

THORNS TO SENATOR CHARLES GRASSLEY (R-Ia) for proposing an amendment to the DC appropriations bill that would rename the block of 16th Street in front of the Soviet Embassy as Andrei Sakharov Avenue. Not only is the proposal in infringement on home rule and a gratuitous muddying of international waters, but it adds further fuel to the tendency of politicians to mess with the city's eminently logical -- and therefore comprehensible -- street naming system.

ROSES TO THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS for its precedent-making ruling allowing homeless residents to vote.

THE LAND WAR

The National Capital Planning Commission has approved a special restrictive zoning district on Capitol Hill. The Hill district would run from the Capitol to Sixth Street and from F Street NE to Virginia Ave SE. The proposal was urged by the architect of Capitol to keep nearby development harmonious. It has the backing of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society, the local neighborhood commissions and the Hill business organization. Now if we can just get the Capitol architect to put up harmonious buildings.....

Don't Tear It Down has filed applications for historic landmark status for the 14th & G financial center, the McLachlen Building, Fuller House and 1911 Penna. Ave. NW.

A DC judge has given permission for the demolition of the Ouray Building to be completed on the grounds that the new downtown historic districts had not yet been officially created. What happened was that the city nominated the districts to be on the national register back in January. The National Park Service wrote back a month later requesting clarification of a number of points and the city never replied. Further, the city never published an announcement of the districts in the DC Register, another requirement. Incompetence or intent? Your guess is as good as ours.

The Zoning Commission has relaxed its excessively restrictive rules concerning the submission of testimony by neighborhood commissions. The commission says that its requirement that the ANC's submit testimony in writing seven days before public hearings and that ANC testimony be limited to these comments applies only to specific rezoning cases and not to changes in zoning regulations or to major rezonings such as the Georgetown waterfront case. The logic of this distinction is not readily apparent.

Ground was broken last month for two nine story office buildings in the 600 block of Penna Ave. The buildings will also include a hotel and 196 condominium units -- the first housing to be built in the Pennsylvania Ave. project.

The Metropolitan Washington Planning and Housing Association has testified that it does not believe the planned Techworld project should proceed until a number of major issues have been dealt with. These include the provision of adequate housing in the area, making sure that both construction and permanent jobs are provided for DC residents and correcting the impediments to pedestrian flow the structure would create. MWPFA also said it agrees with local preservationists that the current design for Techworld would have "a devastating visual effect on an important part of the L'Enfant Plan and a significant piece of our city's historic fabric."

MT. PLEASANT HISTORIC DISTRICT: The Historic Preservation Review Board holds a hearing the end of this month on an application to declare a large part of Mt. Pleasant an historic district. The area would run between Rock Creek and Piney Branch Parks on the north, 16th Street on the east, Harvard Street on the south, and Adams Mill Road on the west.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH: Why has the Historic Preservation Office not forwarded an application for national landmark status for the Tivoli Theatre to the federal government -- one full year after it was designated a landmark by the city? The law requires such an application but the HPO claims it is still "in typing," according to Tivoli preservationists. A feasibility study of the theatre, located at 14th & Park Road, found that the building can and should be saved, and that it can be remodelled with minimal impact on the original architecture. Metro, incidentally, has budgeted funds to underpin the theatre which is just two blocks from a planned Green Line station. If you want to help on this important preservation project, you can write Save the Tivoli Inc., 3325 Holmead Place NW, DC 20010, or call 462-2792.

DC PEOPLE

Johnny Barnes edging towards announcing his candidacy for the Ward Seven council seat now held by HR Crawford.

Calvin Lockridge, running for the Ward Eight seat on the city council currently held by Wihelmina Rolark.

Eva Hinton, longtime Georgetown activist, awarded the Renchard Prize by the Columbia Historical Society, given each year to an outstanding preservationist.

Sterling Brown, named Poet Laureate of the city by the mayor.

John Ray, announced his candidacy for reelection as an at-large member the city council.

Robert Roehr, announced his candidacy for the at-large city council seat now held by Jerry Moore. Roehr, who has been active in local Republican politics and in the preservation movement, described his opponent as "go-along, get-along Jerry."

Patricia Worthy named chair of the Public Service Commission.

Ruth Hankins-Nesbitt repappointed to another four year term on the Public Service Commission.

ANDREW MCBRIDE, named new city public health commissioner. McBride was formerly a consultant with the New York State Department of Health. He says he will stress health education.

Shirley Mundle, secretary to the pastor and office manager of Canaan Baptist Church, nominated to the DC Board of Elections by the mayor.

M.J. Brodie, Baltimore planner and architect who most recently was director of that city's department of housing and community development, named executive director of the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation.

CITIFAX

For the first time since World War II, the number of whites moving into DC is increasing, although not by much. There was a net immigration of 500 whites during 1975-1980 compared with a net decrease of 51,400 during the period 1965-1970. Meanwhile black emmigration is on the upswing: 53,855 in 1975-1980 compared with a net immigration of 8600 in 1965-1970. The Census Bureau figures point, among other things, to a decline in housing segregation in the suburbs and an end of the black migration from further south.

The TB rate in the city has been falling steadily since 1980. There were 202 cases in 1983 compared with 341 cases in 1980.

In their "The Book of America," Neal Pierce and Jerry Hagstrom declare DC the nation's most livable city. The state by state comparison rates the city high because of its good health care, parks, museums, and high quality schools.



WEATHER Cont'd

group is pressing for passage of HR 4440, the Human Needs and World Security Bill, which was introduced last month in the House and now has 100 cosponsors. Bread for the World can be contacted at 802 Rhode Island Ave NW, DC 20018 (202-269-0200).

TOPICS Cont'd

evidence comes from a Times story concerning a plank in the proposed platform:

"Originally the sentence read: 'The Democratic Party opposes quotas, which are inconsistent with the principles of our country.' But the compromise brought to the committee floor this afternoon read: 'The Democratic Party opposes quotas which are inconsistent with the principles of our country,' a different statement and one the Jackson delegates decided they could live with."

They are different statements primarily because the first one is correct English and the second isn't. If the Democrats wanted to say what they thought they were saying, the second sentence should have read "The Democratic Party opposes quotas that are inconsistent with the principles of our country." "That," and not the absence of a comma, defines the quotas you're talking about. If you're talking about all quotas and adding a little parenthetical editorializing about them, then the first sentence is fine. Among a wealth of grammatical rules that serve little function except tradition this is one case of a rule that truly has a purpose.

Summer reading

As I prepare to estivate with my stack of Ngaio Marsh mysteries, I shall, in the manner of editors everywhere, leave subscribers with more substantive matter to pursue. My proposed summer reading list for you, however, is mercifully short. I recommend that you fetch yourself a subscription to New Options (\$25 a year, PO Box 19324, DC 20036), which is the most important new publication I've come across in some time.

What editor Mark Satin does in his newsletter published every three weeks is to synthesize and discuss some of the most important trends in what he calls "post-liberal" thought and action. The newsletter, in the manner of the Greens, considers itself neither right nor left but ahead. Its thesis is that we can construct a future that is decentralist, fiscally sound, ecological and globally responsible. Unlike a lot of

theoretical journals, it is written in a highly readable and non-pompous fashion. And Satin is backed by a board of advisors that includes the likes of Petra Kelly, Jeremy Rifkin and Robert Theobald.

Incidentally, those wishing to delve further into social ecology might also wish to subscribe to Synthesis, a more wordy and wandering yet informative newsletter put out by the League for Ecological Democracy, PO Box 1858, San Pedro, CA 90733 (\$6.50 a year). Lots of food for thought here, too.

Meanwhile, have pleasant summer and have some good post-liberal decentralist fun. I'll see you in the fall.

KIDS Cont'd

to return to the lockup philosophy that holds in most states, though the state legislature is firmly controlled by Republicans.

It may be too early to measure the lasting benefits of deinstitutionalization in Utah, but there is reason for optimism.

Although it's been 10 years since Jerry Miller left Massachusetts, fewer than 70 juveniles are locked up there -- a smaller number than in many cities. If Massachusetts' rate of juvenile detention were applied nationwide, there would be only some 3,000 held -- about the number now locked up in Ohio alone.

Perhaps most telling of all, the proportion of adult inmates who are alumni of the juvenile justice system has declined dramatically, from 46 percent when Miller took over to 19 percent today.

"Massachusetts and California are very different from Utah," says VanVleet, "but the issue of deinstitutionalization is a relative one."

"Each state can deinstitutionalize. It's only a question of commitment -- commitment that is philosophical and political."

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LETTERS Cont'd

itself -- as good words should.

I leave you with this thought from Francis George Fowler:

"The English-speaking world may be divided into (1) those who neither know nor care what a split infinitive is; (2) those who do not know, but care very much; (3) those who know and condemn; (4) those who know and approve; and (5) those who know and distinguish. 1. Those who neither know nor care are the vast majority, & are a happy folk, to be envied by most of the minority classes...." --s.s.)

DC Greens

After writing the classic "how-to" article on reviving the Statehood Party why didn't you have the strength of your convictions and re-

name your paper the "DC Green Party Newspaper?" The Progressive Review? What are you and the DC Gazette progressing to?

Will you ever get back to Mondale-ism or some other moderate capitalist view? Why didn't you explain why the city council and Fauntroy think there is something badly wrong with the constitution of the Statehood Party? Even the Washington Post, which champions all kinds of liberal ideas, recently published an editorial about the Statehood Party's constitution which was a consensus view of everybody but Statehood diehards.

You don't serve the statehood cause by soft-pedalling its real problems, which arise from some of, but not all, of its supporters.

Your idea is a simplistic solution, and will only at most convince about five people in the Statehood Party.

There is an old saying that a young man at 20 is a socialist if he cares deeply enough, but if he is a socialist at 40 he is in trouble.

It appears that you and the DC Gazette are both suffering from this classic problem, that you are still politically at the same point you were 20 or 30 years ago.

J. GEORGE FRAIN
Adams Morgan

McDOWELL

No, I say. What's the point of the era of communication if the wonders of it compel us to withdraw to the edge of arrogance? The answer is not to have a phone we don't want to be called up on.

★ ★ ★

Maybe I resent the new era. My grandmother had a crank telephone at the farm. Her number was 3, just 3. Everybody knew it -- or asked Central -- but nobody used it to intrude.

And when my grandfather was on the way home from town, there was no way to remind him to bring milk. Anyway, they had cows.

(Richmond Times-Dispatch)

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STONE Cont'd

At any given period in history, religious leaders have committed outrageous desecrations of the human spirit — the Crusades, the Inquisition, a Holy War, the New England witch trials, the massacres at Sabra and Chatilla refugee camps.

But we must not indict a religion's eternity for a brutal aberration.

In disdaining your verbal wantonness, I also spurn those "ceremonial Negro leaders" who knee-jerked in response. As white-financed puppets, they had no choice.

But I do think you should worry about isolating yourself from such brothers as the Rev. Robert E. Pruitt, pastor of Washington's African Methodist Episcopal Church, who, on a previous occasion, had welcomed you as "an apostle of reconciliation."

Last Friday, the Rev. Pruitt denounced your "morally reprehensible, ignorant and vicious rhetoric."

And he strongly reaffirmed his support for "the legal, political and moral existence" of Israel. I'm proud to do the same.

In New York, the Amsterdam News, a leading black newspaper, editorially condemned your statements as "intemperate, obscene, ill-advised and incendiary."

Harsh words, but close to accuracy.

Yet, in repudiating you, the Amsterdam News also asked, "Who will repudiate (New York Mayor Edward) Koch? His pronouncements and positions over the last several years as they pertain to blacks are just as damaging and far more destructive than anything Farrakhan may have said."

Let the church shout "Amen!"

Yet, Koch will try to bring the Democratic Party to its knees because he has power and blacks are a powerless people.

With great prophets like the Rev. Jesse Jackson, that equation is being altered. Blacks are inching with excruciating slowness to a promise land of equality.

In the past, that painful odyssey has acclaimed your energies.

Unfortunately, for both black and white America, you are now eroding much of your previous good work.

And it is a sad day in our history.

Come, let us reason together, saith the Lord. Louis, can't we at least try?

(Philadelphia Daily News)

McCARTHY

has been best expressed by Margaret Atwood in a poem called "Game After Supper," from which the following is taken: "I am hiding in the long grass/ with my two...cousins./ We hear crickets and our own hearts,/ close to our ears:/ though we giggle, we are afraid./ From the shadows around/ the corner of the house/ a tall man is coming to find us./ He will be an uncle/ if we are lucky."

All of which adds up to a good case for a "National Uncles' Day."

SHOP TALK

Florence Isbell, resigned as ACLU national executive director to join Public Citizen.

John Shattuck, director of ACLU's legislative office, to take over as Harvard's vice president in charge of governmental affairs.

LEON SHULL, director of ADA for 20 years, resigns the end of this year.

Rep. Barney Frank named president of ADA to replace the Rev. Robert Drinan.

APPLE Cont'd

grizzly bear. He was killed and eaten. It has now been revealed that the bear had been sedated at least 11 times with angel dust (PCP) by researchers.

Wondering what to do with your Cabbage Patch Doll this summer? Why not send it to its own summer camp? Camp Small Fry, nestled in the heart of scenic New Jersey, is holding two sessions for the dolls. Each week you'll get a letter supposedly written by your own doll. Cost: \$30 a session, including a souvenir camp T shirt.

How would it be if you ate only the official foods of the 1984 Olympics. You'd start off the day with a hearty breakfast of Pop Tarts and Frosted Flakes, followed by Wonder Bread and Coca Cola at lunch. Teatime would be a tasty snack of Twinkies and Snickers Bars, and for dinner a trip to McDonalds for Big Macs fries and another Coke. Said an Olympic official to the Dallas Morning News, which compiled this menu, "We can't control the American public's diet."

The DC area chapter of the ACLU has been sued on behalf of the Kingdom of Heaven (court documents list address as Los Angeles). The ACLU groups says the suit "appears to allege that the ACLU is not following the Golden Rule. The complaint, as best we can understand it, seeks an injunction ordering us (and our co-defendant, the United States government) to refrain from doing evil. We plan to defend ourselves."

Sleep well. The National Guard in Wisconsin has been training to evict farmers who resist foreclosures.

Happy talk TV news is out, says media consultant Peter Hoffman. And he ought to know; he came up with the idea in the first place. He says we're no longer in the 'neat decade' of the seventies, when TV anchors were decked out in identical blazers and things were kept as light as

possible. Hoffman says viewers have changed, with most women in the target audience holding down full-time jobs. The result: a pretty face won't cut it anymore without solid journalistic credentials. Adds Hoffman, "Ken and Barbie have had it."

German scientists, reports the Weekly News of London, say listening to music through headphones is the perfect cure for seasickness. They claim it short-circuits the middle ear's ability to pick up rolling motions and ocean noises, two main causes of mal de mer.

The computer revolution hasn't put an end to the paper glut after all. All those printouts are generating 600 hundred million pages every day according to the Center for Neighborhood Technology in Chicago.

Esperanto, the artificial language that flopped when it was introduced a hundred years ago, is making a comeback. The reason: its uncomplicated sentence structure is perfect for computer talk. It's so simple the European Common Market was able to lay off over half its translators when it switched its computers to Esperanto.

In a study for Gerber Baby Food, researcher Gary Johnson found breast milk now provides sixty percent of the average baby's food up till the ninth month. Johnson says that as recently as 1972 it was difficult to locate an infant who was still being breast-fed after six months. Now, he says, one in three is.

The regularly hourly eruptions of Old Faithful were disrupted by an earthquake last fall and now run as much as 40 minutes late. Not only that, the spouts are getting pretty feeble and National Park Service geologists are afraid the geyser may be running out of steam.



According to Family Weekly, more children grow up in two-parent families than ever before. The reason is that fathers are living longer. In 1900, seven out of ten marriages ended through death or divorce before the children were grown. Today, thanks largely to increased male longevity, the figure is six in ten.

HEROIN DEATHS UP: A sampling of hospital emergency rooms by the National Institute on Drug Abuse found that deaths from heroin overdoses had risen 67% last year.

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